

What is claimed is:

1. In a computerized system, a method of enabling a client to schedule an appointment with a particular service provider, comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) providing a database of service providers, each service provider having associated therewith a plurality of identifying criteria;
- (b) receiving from the client a search request having a plurality of desired criteria associated with the particular service
10 provider;
- (c) comparing the plurality of desired criteria with the plurality of identifying criteria for each service provider in the database of service providers;
- (d) presenting the client with a list of service providers having
15 associated therewith the desired criteria;
- (e) enabling the client to select the particular service provider from the list of service providers presented;
- (f) enabling the client to request a proposed appointment date and time for meeting with the particular service provider;

(g) comparing the proposed appointment date and time with a database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider;

(h) obtaining identifying information from the client;

5 (i) converting the proposed appointment date and time to a confirmed appointment date and time;

(j) adding the confirmed appointment date and time to a database of appointments associated with the particular service provider; and

10 (k) removing the confirmed appointment date and time from the database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider.

2. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of providing the client with directions to the particular service provider.
3. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of sending the client a reminder of the confirmed appointment date and
5 time prior to the confirmed appointment date and time.
4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of, if the proposed appointment date and time for meeting with the particular service provider is not available, suggesting a different appointment date and time that is available in the
10 database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider.
5. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of, if the proposed appointment date and time for meeting with the particular service provider is not available, enabling the client to
15 request another proposed appointment date and time.
6. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of enabling the client to define the search request by selecting each of the desired criteria from a database of available desired criteria.

7. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of enabling the client to view information about the confirmed appointment date and time.
8. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of enabling the client to view information about confirmed appointment dates and times for a plurality of particular service providers.
9. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of enabling the particular service provider to view information about the confirmed appointment date and time.
- 10 10. The method of claim 1 further comprising the step of enabling the particular service provider to view information about confirmed appointment dates and times for a plurality of clients.

11. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

(a) enabling the client to cancel the confirmed appointment date and time;

(b) adding the confirmed appointment date and time to the

5 database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider; and

(c) removing the confirmed appointment date and time from the database of appointments associated with the particular service provider.

10 12. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:

(a) enabling the particular service provider to cancel the confirmed appointment date and time;

(b) adding the confirmed appointment date and time to the database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider; and

15 (c) removing the confirmed appointment date and time from the database of appointments associated with the particular service provider.

13. In a computerized system, a method of enabling a client to schedule an appointment with a particular service provider, comprising the steps of:

- 5 (a) providing a database of service providers, each service provider having associated therewith a plurality of identifying criteria;
- (b) obtaining identifying information from the client;
- (c) receiving from the client a search request having a plurality of desired criteria associated with the particular service provider;
- 10 (d) comparing the plurality of desired criteria with the plurality of identifying criteria for each service provider in the database of service providers;
- (e) presenting the client with a list of service providers having associated therewith the desired criteria;
- 15 (f) enabling the client to select the particular service provider from the list of service providers presented;
- (g) enabling the client to request a proposed appointment date and time for meeting with the particular service provider
- 20 from a selection of available appointment dates and times

from the database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider;

(h) converting the proposed appointment date and time to a confirmed appointment date and time;

5 (i) adding the confirmed appointment date and time to a database of appointments associated with the particular service provider; and

(j) removing the confirmed appointment date and time from the database of available dates and times associated with the particular service provider.

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